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WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1        1.        A developing method, comprising the steps of:  
2                carrying one-component non-magnetic toner on a developer carrier;  
3                pressing the one-component non-magnetic toner by a regulating  
4 member so as to regulate a transporting quantity of the one-component  
5 non-magnetic toner so that the one-component non-magnetic toner is charged;  
6                forming an electrostatic latent image on an image carrier;  
7                providing the one-component non-magnetic toner to the electrostatic  
8 latent image so as to convert the electrostatic latent image into a visible toner  
9 image; and  
10                controlling the one-component non-magnetic toner so that the  
11 one-component non-magnetic toner pressed by the regulating member  
12 satisfies the following relationship:  
13                 $B/A \leq 1$   
14                where A represents a width [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] of a particle size distribution of the  
15 one-component non-magnetic toner; and B represents a width [fC] of a charge  
16 quantity distribution of the one-component non-magnetic toner.

1        2.        The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control  
2 step is performed to satisfy the following relationship;  
3                 $a > b$   
4                where a represents a particle size [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] in a particle size segment  
5 having a largest particle count in the particle size distribution of the  
6 one-component non-magnetic toner; and b represents a particle size [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] in a

7 particle size segment having a largest particle count in the particle size  
8 distribution in every charge quantity segment.

1 3. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the control  
2 step is performed to satisfy a relation that a ratio of toner of reverse polarity in  
3 the charge quantity distribution of the one-component non-magnetic toner is  
4 less than 5%.

1 4. The developing method as set forth in claim 3, wherein the control  
2 step is performed to satisfy a relation that a toner particle count in a charge  
3 quantity segment having a largest particle count in the charge quantity  
4 distribution in every particle size segment is 10% or higher of total toner.

1 5. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of  
2 kinds, resin composition and shape of the toner base particles of the  
3 one-component non-magnetic toner is determined in the control step.

1 6. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein at least one of  
2 kinds and quantities of the extraneous additives added to the one-component  
3 non-magnetic toner is determined in the control step.

1 7. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein a surface  
2 material of the developer carrier is determined in the control step.

1 8. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein a regulating

2 condition of the regulating member is determined in the control step.

1 9. The developing method as set forth in claim 1, wherein the  
2 transporting quantity of the one-component non-magnetic toner is determined  
3 in the control step.

1 10. An image forming method, comprising the steps of:  
2 carrying a one-component non-magnetic toner on a developer carrier;  
3 pressing the one-component non-magnetic toner by a regulating  
4 member so as to regulate a thickness thereof so that the one-component  
5 non-magnetic toner is charged;  
6 forming an electrostatic latent image on an image carrier;  
7 providing the one-component non-magnetic toner to the electrostatic  
8 latent image so as to convert the electrostatic latent image into a visible toner  
9 image;  
10 controlling the one-component non-magnetic toner so that the  
11 one-component non-magnetic toner pressed by the regulating member  
12 satisfies the following relationship:  
13 
$$B/A \leq 1$$
  
14 where A represents a width [ $\mu\text{m}$ ] of a particle size distribution of the  
15 one-component non-magnetic toner; and B represents a width [fC] of a charge  
16 quantity distribution of the one-component non-magnetic toner; and  
17 transferring the visible image so as to form an image.

1 11. The image forming method as set forth in claim 10, wherein the

- 2 method uses an image forming apparatus having no cleaner mechanism that
- 3 cleans waste toner remaining on the image carrier after the transferring step.